



DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting Theme: Collaborative Partnerships

COUNCIL COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

King Room, Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK

May 22-24, 2018

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Time	Discussion Item	Presenter(s)
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Introductions	Dan Hull, Chris Oliver
1:10 – 1:15	NMFS Update	Chris Oliver
1:15 – 2:30	Budget Update	Brian Pawlak
2:30 – 3:00	Bycatch Update	Sam Rauch
3:00 – 3:15	Break	
3:15 – 3:45	Electronic Monitoring Policy Directive	Brett Alger/Councils
3:45 – 4:00	Data Modernization	Dorothy Lowman
4:00 – 4:30	Development of EM in the North Pacific	Diana Evans
4:30	Adjourn for the day	
4:30 – 5:00	Demonstration of EM (at dock outside) by Alaska Fishermen Stephan Rhoads	

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Time	Discussion Item	Presenter(s)
8:00 – 8:30	Coffee and pastries	
8:30 – 9:30	Legislative Update and CCC comments	Gregg Waugh, Dave Whaley
9:30 – 10:15	Recusal Policy - Discussion Paper	Adam Issenberg
10:15 – 11:00	EBFM Regional Implementation plans	Sam Rauch
11:00 – 11:15	Break	
11:15 – 11:45	Exempted Fishing Permits – Use and review	Glenn Merrill/Councils
11:45 – 12:15	BSIA Update	Cisco Werner/Councils
12:15 – 1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30 – 2:30	NMFS Policy Directives & Prioritization	Jennifer Lukens/Chuck Tracy
2:30 – 3:15	Allocation Reviews	
	NPFMC Allocation Review Progress Status & Expectations	David Witherell Alan Risenhoover
3:15 – 3:30	Break	
3:30 – 4:30	Research Priorities	
	Council process; products; outcome NMFS research priorities & funding	Tom Nies Cisco Werner
4:30	Adjourn for the day	

Thursday, May 24, 2018

<u>Time</u>	<u>Discussion Item</u>	<u>Presenter(s)</u>
8:00 – 8:30	Coffee and pastries	
8:30 – 9:30	Aquaculture	
	Policy Updates	Sam Rauch
	Lessons from GMFMC FMP	Carrie Simmons
9:30 – 10:00	International Affairs/Seafood Inspection	Sam Rauch
10:00 – 10:30	Regulatory Reform progress reports	Alan Risenhoover/Councils
10:30 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 11:45	Recreational Fisheries Overview	Russ Dunn
11:45 – 12:00	Citizen Science	Mark Brown
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30 – 2:45	NEFMC Program Review	Tom Nies
2:45 – 3:00	NOAA Fisheries Website Transition	Rebecca Ferro
3:00 – 3:15	Break	
3:15 – 4:15	CCC Workgroup Reports	
	Communications Group	Maria Shawback
	Habitat Committee	Diana Evans
	Scientific Coordination Subcommittee	Chuck Tracy
4:15 – 4:30	CCC TOR and Meeting Schedules	Witherell, Nies
4:30 – 4:45	Other Business and next meeting	Gregg Waugh
4:45 – 5:00	Wrap up and next meeting	Dan Hull
5:00	Adjourn meeting	



Summary Information on CCC Agenda Issues – May 2018

Budget Update/ 5-yr grants (Brian Pawlak)

The government was still operating under a continuing resolution during the interim CCC meeting, so it was not clear what the final budgets for 2018 would be, including the amount and schedule for release of grant funding to the councils. In May, we will receive an update on 2018 funds and status of 2019 and 2020 budget planning. Joint Enforcement funding in the 2019 budget has raised concerns by Councils and may be discussed.

Bycatch Update (Sam Rauch)

In December 2016, NMFS released a final National Bycatch Reduction Strategy which lays out objectives and actions to help us more effectively reduce bycatch with existing resources and under current statutory requirements. The Strategy did not create any new requirements but was meant to guide and coordinate our existing and future bycatch work and programs. The next step will be to develop implementation plans that build upon and to continue to support high quality work to reduce bycatch. NMFS is seeking council input as they begin development of these plans and their implementation.

Electronic Monitoring Policy Directive (Brett Alger/Councils)

NMFS is preparing a draft policy directive on EM technology, definitions, and cost sharing. The Council will be expected to comment on the draft. In February, Councils had questions regarding: relative funding responsibilities, standards on coverage, inequities for data processing costs between EM and human observers, assumption that all future EM will be paid by fishermen, data security, and the Council's role in reviewing technological improvements. Council's need to communicate preferences on these issues.

Data Modernization Update (Dorothy Lowman)

A report on data innovations for US fisheries was released in 2017 by a fishing data innovation taskforce (a group of fishing industry and NGO representatives). The report provides recommendations on how to modernize and streamline fishery information systems. What is the priority of NMFS and the Councils to do this, and are there any initiatives to address this, for example increasing observer data efficiency? There may be opportunities for public/private partnerships, but it is not clear how the money could get integrated into the process.

Development of EM in the North Pacific (Diana Evans)

Development of EM in the North Pacific has been a successful collaboration among fisherman, the Council, and NMFS. Diana Evans will provide a presentation on the origins of EM in the North Pacific, the steps taken to get EM data fully integrated into observer data collection system, and lessons learned.

Demonstration of EM (at dock outside) by Alaska Longline Fisherman (Stephan Rhoads)

The push to implement EM instead of human at-sea observers came from the small boat fixed gear fishermen, and fishermen in Sitka led the way in gear testing. We are planning on having a longline vessel come alongside the dock just outside of the meeting hall. A short presentation on how the longline gear is set and retrieved from the vessel and how EM works on the vessel. Small groups of people may be invited to board the vessel to see a demonstration of the equipment and how it is used.

Legislative Update and CCC comments (Gregg Waugh, Dave Whaley)

On March 8, the NPFMC received a written request from Congressman Don Young's fishery staff, Martha Newell, for CCC comments on H.R. 200 as amended by the House Committee on Natural Resources in December. A CCC letter has been drafted for consideration. The Legislative workgroup

will review this letter and potentially offer some text on new issues not previously addressed in the CCC working paper. In addition, councils may wish to review changes in draft legislation that have occurred since the February meeting (e.g., S. 1520), and other draft legislation (Marine Aquaculture Act).

Recusal Policy- Review and comment on PR (Adam Issenberg)

NMFS is finalizing a proposed rule that addresses recusal issues including partial shares attribution and the close causal link language with respect to benefits from council actions, hopefully providing solid clarification with regard to “*A Council decision shall be considered to have a significant and predictable effect on a financial interest if there is a close causal link between the Council decision and an expected and substantially disproportionate benefit to the financial interest of the affected individual...*”. A discussion paper will be presented.

EBFM Regional Implementation plans (Sam Rauch)

Based on the 2016 EBFM policy and roadmap, implementation plans have been developed for individual regions. The purpose of the plans is to coordinate science and management priorities, build collaborative relationships, describe engagement strategies, specify EBFM priority milestones over the next 5 years, and provide a method to document progress in implementing EBFM. The CCC will get a briefing on these draft plans at this meeting, and NMFS will be ready for full council and public comment over the summer.

Exempted Fishing Permits – Use and review in Alaska Region (Glenn Merrill/Councils)

Exempted fishing permits have been flagged as a possible ‘problem’ to be fixed in MSA reauthorization, including new analytical requirements and limits on duration. In the North Pacific, the collaborative process involving the applicant, science center, regional office, and council provides a workable model for timely approval of a scientifically sound projects with appropriate consultation and review by the Council. The process and several EFP projects will be highlighted to illustrate how this issue is addressed.

BSIA Update (NMFS)

At the February CCC meeting, NMFS provided a presentation and a draft white paper that describes a framework for determining that stock status determinations and harvest specifications are based on the best scientific information available (BSIA). NMFS has requested Council comments before the CCC meeting in May, with final comments due by July 1. At this CCC meeting, NMFS will provide an update on BSIA and plans to finalize the framework. Any update on NS1 subgroup formation to develop technical guidance?

NMFS Policy Directives & Prioritization (Jennifer Lukens, Chuck Tracy)

Over the past 10 years, NMFS has issued nearly 50 policy directives that create added work for the councils. Councils cannot be expected to effectively address the cumulative requirements of these policy directives in the near term, so some discussion of the priorities may be needed. Prioritization would help the Councils know which priorities are more important to address and deserve increased attention (all PDs cannot all be equally important).

Allocation Reviews – Status & Expectations (David Witherell, Allen Risenhoover)

In July 2016, NMFS issued a Fisheries Allocation Policy Directive 01-119 (further revised on 2/17), and two associated Procedural Directives. Collectively, these directives are intended to provide guidance to the Councils on reviewing fisheries allocations and describe a mechanism to ensure fisheries allocations are periodically evaluated. The Fishery Allocation Policy requires the Councils to establish review triggers, provide an initial analytical review of each allocation, and if indicated, analyze the allocation for possible revisions. Categories of triggers that can be used by a council to initiate an allocation review: public interest, time, or indicators. The councils were required to identify one or more triggers for each fishery with an allocation that meets the definition contained in the revised policy directive by August

2019 (or as soon as practicable). Councils will report progress to date on determining triggers and reviewing allocations. NMFS can provide guidance as to the required granularity of the reviews. The NPFMC has established triggers and review timelines for each of its allocations meeting the definition, and the NPFMC has completed its first allocation review. A report on the process and lessons learned will be provided and this experience may be useful for other councils.

Research Priorities (Cisco Werner, Tom Nies)

Each council treats the requirement to develop research priorities differently. For some councils, establishing research priorities is an important action, whereas for some councils, it doesn't merit high importance. Further, each council uses a different process to develop the priorities, uses different categories of priorities, use a different schedule, and have different products and outcomes. A comparison of the different process and outcomes of the Councils will be provided.

The Councils submit these priorities to the Secretary and the NMFS science centers for their consideration in developing research priorities and budgets for the region of the council. However, it is not clear what NMFS does with the research priorities that the Councils submit. NMFS will provide a report on NMFS research priorities, Science Center funding, and how Council research priorities are used.

Aquaculture (Sam Rauch, Carries Simmons)

Aquaculture is a new major priority for NOAA. Councils can be part of it by supporting coastal communities, developing aquaculture FMPs, or providing data for appropriate siting of aquaculture farms. New legislation is in the works to be introduced by Senator Wicker that would authorize \$350 million over 5 years to create a NOAA Office of Aquaculture with divisions in each region, authorizing issuing of permits outside of MSA and having the Councils serve only as consultant role. At this meeting, NMFS will provide a policy update on aquaculture, Carrie Simmons will make a presentation on the development of an aquaculture FMP in the Gulf, and the Legislative Workgroup will provide recommendations on the aquaculture bill.

International Affairs/Seafood Inspection (Sam Rauch)

There is interest by at least one Council in receiving information about inspection standards and information about what standards domestic products would need to meet to be exported. Updates on IUU and Trusted Trader will be provided. Additionally, NMFS should provide RFMO updates, and updates on commission appointment process (e.g., North Pacific Fisheries Commission). There is also interest in discussion of increasing U.S. tuna quotas and reducing the trade deficit.

Regulatory Reform progress reports (Alan Risenhoover/Councils)

NOAA Fisheries has developed a process and guidance to implement the regulatory reform Executive Orders (13771 and 13777). Need to determine whether revision or elimination is necessary. In most regions, Council staff is working with regional staff to review regulations and present recommendations to the Council for review (with public comment). The councils need to get the list of de-regulatory regulations to NMFS due July 1. At this meeting, we will discuss regional progress on this issue.

Recreational Fisheries Overview (Russ Dunn)

A Recreational Fishing Summit was held at the end of March. This Summit was specifically designed to identify complementary and collaborative actions that the angling and management communities can work on together. Russ Dunn will present the results of the summit. Participants at the summit were concerned that social and economic data on the charter and recreational fisheries needed for allocation reviews were lacking, and NMFS made a commitment to get this information and analyses. Has any progress been made? In February, the Councils commented on the need to messaging on MRIP information when it gets released this summer.

Citizen Science (Mark Brown)

The South Atlantic Council is implementing a Citizen Science Program and will update the CCC on progress to date. Details about the pilot project will be shared.

NEFMC Program Review (Tom Nies)

The NEFMC recently completed an independent program review to: (1) assess past performance; (2) gather feedback on strengths and weaknesses of the Council process and operations; and (3) identify potential areas for improvements. The review was conducted by an independent six-member panel of fishery managers and scientists from other regions, and included input from stakeholders. The NEFMC will provide a summary of the process in response to requests from several Councils.

NOAA Fisheries Website Transition (Rebecca Ferro)

Phase 1 of NOAA Fisheries' web transformation -- www.fisheries.noaa.gov -- launched November 2017 with a dramatic new look and feel. The new site is modernized to keep up with changing technology; menus, organization and navigation improved; and effort made to ensure content is compelling and written in plain language. Rebecca Ferro will highlight NOAA's communication strategy in relation to the web changes, outline what's ahead, and how all this can affect the fishery management councils.

CCC Workgroup Reports

Under this agenda item, we will receive reports from each of the CCC committees/workgroups, and take action as needed.

Habitat Committee	Diana Evans
Communications Group	Maria Shawback
Scientific Coordination Subcommittee	Chuck Tracy

CCC TOR and Meeting Schedules (Witherell/Nies)

The CCC TOR was revised last year to define the standing CCC committees and work groups. Several members have suggested that the TOR be revised relative to 1) the chairmanship of the different groups, and 2) the timing of CCC meetings. There is currently no guidance on chairmanship of the committees other than the SCS, and without this guidance the habitat committee and communications group are operating under the assumption that chairmanship rotates annually with the CCC host council. The CCC may wish to incorporate guidance in the TOR.

Regarding timing of CCC meetings, the interim meeting was originally scheduled early in the year to allow discussions on budgets, but in recent years, budgets have not been passed by then. Some CCC members have expressed concern that the late February – mid-May cycle puts the meetings too close together. We might want to explore different dates that would allow for a more even temporal split and thus provide more time for progress on issues raised at the first meeting of the year. Lately it seems we don't learn much about the budget in February – would we be better served holding this first meeting in March, April, or even May? A 2020 calendar with meeting dates for all councils and ASMFC will be distributed and be useful for discussions about establishing timing for the WPFMC hosted CCC meeting in 2020 and future years. Note that Gregg Waugh has already set the dates for the SAFMC hosted meeting in 2019 (May 13-16 in Charleston SC).

Lastly, the Councils may wish to determine a standard process to select a representative of the Councils to be part of the U.S. delegation to meeting of the Committee of Fisheries at FAO, which occurs every 2 years (?). The status quo (a representative is chosen by vote of the EDs; alternating between East and West coast representatives) is not optimal, and other alternatives may be preferable.